

HOW UNCLE SAM FIGHTS DISEASE

By Edward B. Clark

BETWEEN the people of the United States and disease and death stands the government's public health service. Perhaps it will be urged that the great body of physicians of the United States is the real safeguard of the people. This is in every high sense true, but in support of the first seemingly wide-reaching statement let it be known that the physicians of the public health service engage themselves faithfully and with proved efficiency in the labor of prevention of which, as the time-tried saying has it, an ounce is worth a pound of cure.

The surgeons of the public health service are not only sentinels in the field of warfare against disease, but they are the advance guard of the soldiers engaged in the fight. The campaign records show that on many fields by early victories they have made great battles unnecessary. It is a large part of their duty to overcome the enemy on his first appearance, and in many instances to make impossible his appearance in the field which he seeks to sow with the germs of disease which are his weapons of offense.

In the popular print one reads columns of the activities of government in preparations for possible war. There seems to be a delight in dreadnaughts and abiding interest in battalions. Of the life-saving functions of the government one reads little. The work of the medical service is as devoted and more dangerous than that of the soldier. The doctor in his investigations, experiments and ministrations faces death in the time of peace, and in the time of war the surgeon with the soldier is on the battlefield. There is a living interest in the daily work of the public health service of the United States. It is carried on for the benefit of all the people, hundreds of thousands and perhaps millions of whom know too little of the labor in their behalf.

The public health service of the United States is a bureau of the department of the treasury. It falls directly within the office of assistant secretary of the treasury, Byron R. Newton. The surgeon-general of the service is Rupert Blue, whose research work and whose accomplishment in lines of medical endeavor are well known to the profession. There are six assistant surgeon-generals, Doctors A. H. Glennan, W. C. Stimpson, L. E. Cofer, J. W. Kerr, W. C. Rucker and J. W. Traak. They are all stationed in Washington and have direction over the various branches in all parts of the country.

Recently in the medical council there appeared this brief but conclusive statement of the manifold functions of the public health service of the United States government:

"Co-operating through the health authorities of the states, the service collects data upon the prevalence and distribution of disease, administers interstate quarantine, suppresses epidemics, conducts research work, maintains national quarantine, examines immigrants, regulates the manufacture and sale of biologic medicinal products in interstate traffic and furnishes medical treatment to various branches of the government service. Officers of the service may be assigned to duty in any part of the world."

It is the intention in the present article to take up and describe only one of the works and fields of labor of the public health service. The waters of Chesapeake bay and its inlets and tributaries form the field of an enormous industry. It is from these waters that are taken a large part of the shell fish approved as a delectable food by thousands and perhaps millions who never saw salt water. How many Americans nodding with the approval of appetite over their oysters on the half shell know that it has been made a matter of government concern that the shell fish should be a food as safe to the health as it is grateful to the taste?

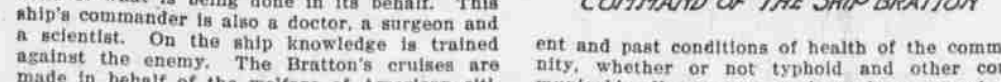
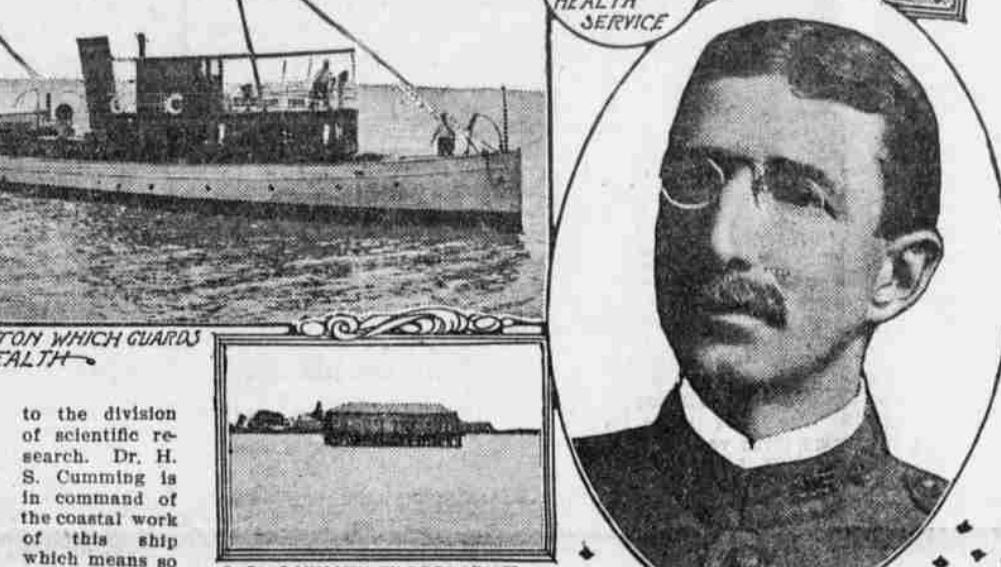
It has been said that the American people show great interest in a dreadnaught, a big ship built for offensive purposes, and, if it is not putting it too strongly, mainly for the sinking of other ships and their crews along with them—a killing purpose. Is it not to be hoped that an equal if not a greater interest may one day be created in the little ships of the government whose only work and only purpose are saving ones?

In the control of the public health service is a little ship called the Bratton. It bears the name of a surgeon of the service who did commanding work for mankind in a great yellow fever epidemic and who laid down his life for humanity. The scene of the Bratton's activities is on the waters of the great shell fish producing bay which washes Maryland and the tributaries thereto. It is one of the ships belonging to guard the lives of ninety millions of people.

The work of safeguarding the shell fish beds from pollution and thereby performing the work of prevention at a source from which danger frequently springs, falls in the field of direction of Assistant Surgeon-General J. W. Kerr, "in charge of the division of scientific research." To give an idea of the immensity of the field of precaution, prevention and cure coming under the direction of one man it may be said that Doctor Kerr's duties as set forth in the organization chart of the service appear as follows: Laboratories; leprosy investigation station, Hawaii; hygienic laboratory, Washington, D. C.; division of chemistry, zoology, pharmacology, pathology and bacteriology. Field investigations: Diseases affecting man, pollution of streams by sewage and industrial wastes, rural hygiene and school hygiene.

The services of the good ship Bratton are given social status showed every sign of a lack of ideal. What advantages were we to reap from the successes we were to gain? Nobody knew, in fact, everybody thought of other things. Apparently even that overturning was not enough to awaken the national conscience or rouse in public opinion the sublime spirit of unity. Precisely for that reason we were beaten and ruined; that was why we were driven back from the Adriatic to the shores of the Marmora.

We do not wish to attribute to just



SURGEON HUGH J. CUMMING, IN COMMAND OF THE SHIP BRATTON

to the division of scientific research. Dr. H. S. Cumming is in command of the coastal work of this ship which means so much to the public, which perhaps knows little of what is being done in its behalf. This ship's commander is also a doctor, a surgeon and a scientist. On the ship knowledge is trained against the enemy. The Bratton's cruises are made in behalf of the welfare of American citizens and they constitute no menace to the country of any people on earth.

It is the first duty of the Bratton to safeguard the oyster industry of the waters in which the ship sails. Safeguarding the oyster industry means safeguarding the health of the consumers of oysters and other shell fish. In 1912 a law was passed which gave into the hands of the public health service the work of field investigation, into the causes of diseases affecting man, and the duty of enforcing rules of safety at the sources of trouble. Under the same law the service was charged with the work of the study of the pollution of streams by sewage and by industrial wastes. The work in connection with the oyster industry falls within the field of the duties imposed upon the service by this law of 1912.

The Bratton steams all through the coast waters of the Chesapeake, making incursions into the inlets, bays and tributary rivers. Under the direction of the surgeon in charge shell fish are taken from the beds at all the sources of supply. With them are taken samples of the water at different depths and also samples of the material which forms the bed of the coastal waters, the bays and the streams at the points where the test is to be applied.

Bacteriological and chemical examinations are made of the shell fish, the water and the bottom material. The bacteriological examination is the most important. It discloses the total number of bacteria and the number of colon bacilli which are present. The presence of colon bacilli in great numbers shows the presence of fecal matter and arouses instant and earnest attention and painstaking examination and report.

The layman probably knows in a general way that typhoid fever through the method of its introduction into the system is one of the grave dangers which threatens the people through its food supply. It must not be supposed for a moment that the work of the scientists on the Bratton ceases when they have taken their samples and have detected the presence of elements which may constitute danger to the public health.

When there is suspicion that the coastal waters, the shell fish bed, or the waters of a beach which are used for bathing purposes by the people, are affected by dangerous deposits, the land whose drainage flows into the suspected waters instantly is studied. All useful information concerning it is obtained and means are taken to correct conditions which have contributed to the pollution of the waters or have wholly produced it.

The study of the section of the land which is suspected of supplying through its drainage the matter which on deposit becomes a menace through the shell fish supply or otherwise to the public health, comprises an inquiry into the pres-

AFRO-AMERICAN CULLINGS

There was a gathering of Negroes in Waco recently that is well calculated to command the attention, the respect and good will of the representative element of the white race.

For those colored men and women who were not members of the organization it is an object lesson to inspire them to effort to act well their part in life. We are speaking of the annual meeting of the Farmers' Improvement society of Texas. The session lasted three days.

About five hundred members from all over the state were in attendance. Surely this is an object lesson full of credit to the colored race and notably to the men who brought this organization into existence and who manage its affairs, who compose its membership. These colored farmers are types of the best element of their race, men who are shaping the future of that race for good. We take pride in thus writing of this essentially commendable movement and we can say that the best element of white people in Waco are proud to have the organization meet here. There is additional gratification in the fact that some of the leading spirits have their homes and do business in Waco.

This society is the best evidence of what the really worthy and capable Negroes of Texas are doing for the public good. It is as desirable that the Negroes of that class shall prosper and progress as well as the white race.—Wade C. Rollins in the Houston Post.

The annual convention of the Negro Baptists of Texas was one of the greatest meetings ever held. Devotional exercises at the auditorium, Galveston, were conducted by Rev. A. C. Ray of Bay City. President Campbell introduced Rev. J. E. Ellis, chairman of the church extension board, who delivered a short address and presented Dr. W. R. Tolliver, general secretary of the church extension board, who read his report. The report of the secretary showed great gains over last year. Dr. Ira M. Hendon read the report of the committee on state of the country.

President J. W. Strong of Central Texas college delivered an address on "The Possibilities and Future Outlook of Central Texas College." The orphan home board through its secretary, Rev. A. Moore, submitted its report, showing that during the past year \$25,000 has been raised for the orphan home. The orphan home board owns 203 acres, valued at \$200 an acre, a stone building erected at a cost of \$75,000, and in care of 200 orphans. St. John orphanage is supposed to be the largest orphanage in the world.

The evangelist board, through its secretary, Rev. James S. Anderson, made its report showing that during the past year this board has been instrumental in saving 1,378 souls, and has nearly one thousand dollars.

Prof. W. H. Fuller, educational secretary, submitted his report showing that during the past year \$48,571 has been raised from all sources. Secretary Fuller's report showed that the Guadalupe district led all of the other districts in raising money, having raised \$1,084,12 for the educational work of the state. He showed that the special need of the Baptists of the state was to maintain the Baptist schools of the state, and urged that the ministry of the denomination be trained in denominational schools.

In his report of his housing survey of Springfield, Ill., for the Sage foundation, John Iddler of the National Housing Association had this to say: "In the Negro district bad housing features are among the most serious in the city. This is usual in cities that have Negro districts. Houses are more dilapidated, water supply and toilets more inadequate, everything in a more run-down, shiffling condition. Part of this may be due to the character and habits of some of the Negro people themselves, in just the same way that bad living conditions among the whites is often due to shifflingness. But there is no question in the minds of those who have studied Negro housing that a large proportion of these people desire better homes than those they are able to obtain in the present state of affairs."

One who has been impressed by the evident desire for cleanliness and order, even under the most discouraging conditions. My own impression is that where conditions are approximately equal the homes of Negroes are better kept than those of several nationalities among our recent immigrants. "But the Negro suffers under severe handicaps. He is usually segregated. If not by law then by custom, in one of the poorest parts of town. Being so confined, he is more easily exploited by his landlord who inclines to give less and charge more than he would in the case of white tenants. I was told that this is the condition in Springfield, although my stay was so short as not to allow the statement. If it is, Springfield is not unique; the same situation is to be found in other cities. But that is no excuse for letting it continue. Nor should the white citizens of Springfield persuade themselves that to improve housing conditions in the Negro district will be a purely altruistic endeavor. We have learned enough in the past few years to know that if any part of the city suffers the other parts will suffer with it. Disease and immorality in the Negro district will have its effect as far away as the extreme borders of the community. To safeguard itself Springfield must set minimum housing standards that shall apply to every dwelling in the city."

It has been asserted that there are only two spots between the Gulf of Mexico and the Bay of Pundis where mountains dip into the sea directly from the water's edge. They are at Mount Desert, on the eastern part of Penobscot bay, and at Camden, on the western part.

Illinois will construct 16,000 miles of paved country roads immediately. Colorado streams are to be restocked with trout by the government.

The longer I live the more I am convinced that after all the more one thing living for and dying for is the privilege of making some being more happy and more useful. No man who does anything to lift his fellows ever makes a sacrifice.—Booker Washington.

Manchester, England, last year imported 4,648,800 gallons of oil. Gold Coast Colony is the premier cocoa producer in the world. times changes color when its owner is run down, though its power to prevent the breaking a limb rests on less good authority.

Echo of the Past. "What's the trouble?" inquired the boss. "Man wants a prescription filled," said the clerk, "that was originally put up here in 1876." "Well, go ahead and fill it." "You forget how the drug business has changed. We haven't enough drugs in the shop to fill it now."

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By E. O. SELLERS, Acting Director Sunday School Course, Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.

LESSON FOR NOVEMBER 29

CHRIST CRUCIFIED.

LESSON TEXT—Mark 15:22-23. (Luke 23:33-34).

GOLDEN TEXT—Surely he hath borne our grief and carried our sorrows; yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.—Isa. 53:4.

Last Sunday we saw Jesus on trial before Pontius Pilate. Today's lesson brings us to the central event of his saving mission to men. We must read all four accounts of this event attentively, reverently, humbly, for it cannot be treated even as other events in the life of our Lord.

I. The Procession to Calvary, vv. 21-23. 'Twas a physically exhausted Christ that left the judgment hall. A night of vigil, mocking, buffeting and without food since the previous evening left him too weak to bear the cross. Then it was that a son of Africa, Simon of Cyrene, was "impressed" to bear the burden. The Romans demanded that the victim bear his own cross. He accepted the human help, but refused the aid of the drug, Matt. 27:34. Luke gives us at this point the incident of the weeping woman. Mark 15:23 seems to indicate that Jesus had to be assisted to the place of the cross.

On the Cross.

II. The Place, Calvary, vv. 22-23. Here we see him, the brightness of God's glory and the express image of his person, the incarnation of truth, in whom dwelt the fullness of the Godhead bodily—"crucified." Sin has done its worst. The Scriptures are fulfilled, Ps. 22:16, Zech. 12:10. It was necessary for our salvation that he should die exactly as he did, Gal. 3:10, 13; John 3:14; Deut. 21:23. Even the parting of his garments was prophesied, Ps. 22:18. The presence of two malefactors had also been foretold, Isa. 53:9, 12.

III. The Passers-by at Calvary, vv. 29-32. The people and the priests joined in heaping scorn upon him. Even those that were crucified with him "reproached him." Yet he loved them all. There seem to have been no gibes for the two thieves, John 19:19, II Tim. 3:12. The cry of the mob now is "save thyself" (v. 30). "Twas spoken in mockery, but they spoke a truth, nevertheless: It was necessary for the good shepherd to give his life for the sheep, John 10:11, and by no means to use his power in saving himself. They did not believe on him after the resurrection of Lazarus; is it to be believed that they would have accepted him had he "saved himself?" To have saved himself would have been for him to take himself out of the hands of God—an act of disobedience, and we read that "he was obedient unto death," Phil. 2:8. He was obedient unto death, for death had no hold upon him. He was obedient to the passion and impulse of eternal love.

IV. The Person on Calvary, vv. 33-40. In the midst of this awful scene, in the confusion of the mingled cry of the mob, there is sounded one note of triumph. As Jesus was thus "lifted up from the earth" (John 12:32), one of those, his companions, ceased to revile him, and cried out, "Art thou the Christ?" and, to be literal, "if so, save us." The other seems to have had his vision cleared, for he rebukes his fellow criminal by saying that their condemnation was a just reward for their deeds. Turning to Jesus he exclaims, "Remember me . . . in thy kingdom." The answer was immediate and significant, "Today shalt thou be with me in paradise." This is a graphic illustration of the whole meaning and symbolism of the cross. In his undying hour the Savior of men loosed this sinner from his sins and granted him the right to fellowship with him in the life beyond.

Jesus hung upon the cross three hours.

Bearing shame and scoffing rude, In my place condemned he stood, Sealed my pardon with his blood, Hallelujah what a savior.

His Faith Triumphant.

Then God drew the curtain, for even he could not look upon that scene (II Cor. 5:21; Heb. 1:13). We do not believe the eclipse theory, but rather that God caused the darkness, another illustration of the closeness of man and nature, Rom. 8:20, 21 R. V. The dying cry, "My God, my God, hast thou forsaken me," was uttered when Jesus sensed the full and complete realization of being separated from the Father. Death is not annihilation, but separation, and Jesus was separated from God the Father because of our sins, Isa. 53:6. Yet in that terrible moment his faith does not waver, for he cries, "My God." Conscious of his personal innocence, but suffering for the sins of others, his faith is triumphant. Other lives have a beginning and an end, this one is "finished." His redemptive work is accomplished and was later sealed by his resurrection. "He gave up the ghost," not a common experience of death, but a fulfillment of his own words, "No man taketh it [this life] away from me, but I lay it down of myself." In deed and in truth Jesus gave up his life, John 19:30-37 tells of the faithful women and of the commitment of Mary to the care of "the disciple"—John. Immediately following his death the veil of the temple at Jerusalem was rent from the "top to the bottom." Not by the hand of man and the last symbolic event in the history of the old ritualism is completed. That veil had excluded from God all save the high priest and was the only way of approach to his presence. Now a new and a better way of admission is open and through Christ men need no longer be excluded from God, Heb. 10:19, 22.

POINTS OUT TURKEY'S FAULT

Lack of Ideals Responsible for Succession of Defeats During the Balkan War.

At the opening of the Balkan war Ottoman public opinion did not show solidarity, and this not alone from the political point of view, but also socially. True, our hearts were not entirely unimpressed by the prospect of victory; and yet, in spite of this feeling, in spite of all the excitement, our

one cause all these disasters; but anyhow if the lack of a national ideal was not the only cause, it was one of the main causes of our defeat. A nation cannot be founded simply on material forces; for material things change easily. Social organisms that depend entirely on their material forces, and are entirely without any strong moral basis, any great faith, cannot find any standing ground at a time of change. They are abruptly shaken down. They remain impotent, they go from defeat to defeat, as we did during the Balkan

war. The unshaken faith that gives a nation an ideal, compensates for the loss of material forces, and allows one to look calmly at overturnings.—Constantinople Tasfir i Etkilar.

Troubles of His Own. "She is said to be the handsomest married woman in New York society," "And her husband?" "Well, of course, she gets plenty of admiration. He is said to be the groughest man."—Kansas City Journal.

PLUTO'S PET.

Cerberus was barking at the gates of hades. "He's all right," Pluto ruminated, "but I do hope they won't tax me for three dogs this year." Even he had his troubles.

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